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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

~~INTELLIGENCE REPORT~~

124986

COUNTRY Finland/USSR

DATE: 25X1A6a

INFO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Notes on OB, Northern Finland

DIST. 6 November 1947

25X1A6a

PAGES

ORIGIN [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT

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1. Finnish troops in unstated numbers are reported to have arrived in June in the valley of the River Torne for reconnaissance, surveying, and map-making. Each troop consisted of about ten to twelve men, most of whom were students from the Finnish War College. The War College has also conducted special summer maneuvers in the vicinity of Rovaniemi, a location which is believed by source to have been chosen since it is not too near the Soviet border.
2. Wooden towers, outfitted with signal facilities, were built in June on the hills along the Torne southward from Aavasaksa and also in the valley of the Torne about ten km. from the border. These towers, which are also to be found along the Soviet-Norwegian border in the vicinity of Petsamo, were requested by the Soviets to facilitate the surveying of land for map-making, in spite of the fact that this method of surveying is outmoded in both Finland and Norway.
3. The headquarters of the Finnish patrol battalion on the Swedish border is at Rovaniemi. This battalion is chiefly concerned with organizing individual border security units and fortifications. Barracks are being constructed at Nuottioranta (66°15'N-23°45'E) for one of these battalions. The Finns apparently feel it necessary, according to source, to maintain a large border patrol.
4. The Soviet Control Commission made a reconnaissance trip in June to the area within Inari (69°50'N-27°05'E), KemiJarvi (66°45'N-27°30'E), and the Swedish border where they gave special attention to the airfield, roads, terrain, and border fortifications.
5. Roads in northern Finland leading to the Swedish border are being widened although the construction is not being rushed in any way.
6. Source reports that there is no indication of Soviet pressure on the Finns either to maintain the patrol on the Swedish border or to widen the roads leading to that border.

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Classification Date: 2008

Document No.

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Class. CHANGED TO: TS

DDA Memo 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 27/1763

Date: 1978

Approved For Release 1999/09/08 : CIA-RDP82-00457R0010000690001-8

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